



**VILLAGE COUNCIL
MINUTES FOR WORK SESSION OF DECEMBER 12, 2023
ASSEMBLY HALL
395 MAGNOLIA ROAD
PINEHURST, NORTH CAROLINA
4:30 PM**

The Pinehurst Village Council held a Work Session Meeting at 05:25 PM, Tuesday, December 12, 2023, in the Assembly Hall of Pinehurst Village Hall, 395 Magnolia Road, Pinehurst, North Carolina.

The following were in attendance in Assembly Hall:

Mr. Patrick Pizzella, Mayor
Mr. Jeff Morgan, Councilmember
Ms. Barb Ficklin, Councilmember
Mr. John Taylor, Councilmember
Mr. Jeff Sanborn, Village Manager
Ms. Shannon Konstantinou, Village Clerk
Ms. Lori Hercules, IT Technician

And approximately 6 attendees, including 3 staff and 1 press.

1. Call to Order.

Mayor Pizzella called the Village Council meeting to order.

2. Discussion of Road Closure Request from USGA / Golf Channel During the 2024 US Open

Mr. Doug Willardson, Assistant Village Manager, reviewed maps of the proposed road closure areas and event set up locations.

Council, Mr. Sanborn, and Mr. Willardson discussed potential pros and cons to Downtown businesses, support for road closures by some Downtown businesses, the possibility of proposing alternative locations, and the need to do a more thorough survey of Downtown businesses to better gauge support for road closures. It was determined to revisit the discussion at one of the January 2024 Council meetings with greater input from local businesses and the Police Department being gathered along with determining if an agreement outlining coverage of cost for any additional services the road closure would require (shuttles, etc.) would be needed.

3. Discuss Potential Issues with Native Plants Law Passed by General Assembly

Mr. Jeff Batton, Assistant Village Manager, and Ms. Janet Farrell, Beautification Committee Chair, provided information on the recently passed Native Plants Law, the impact the law will have on the Village's planting schedule for NCDOT roadways within the Village, expressed concerns over the availability of native plants and the quality of the native plants that are available, the desire for the Beautification Committee to draft a letter for Council to send to the State legislature in Raleigh asking for some compromise or allowance to maintain the current quality and variety of planting schedule used within the Village, potential impact of the Native Plants Law on local businesses such as the Resort, statement gateways to the Village being a big part of the Village's competitive edge for bringing tourist to the area (which will be negatively impacted by the Native Plants Law), and the Village's planting schedule is used to create a utopia effect of entering an oasis within the Sandhills area.

Council, Mr. Batton, and Ms. Farrell discussed whether a letter to the State legislature will have any impact or if a conversation with State representatives would be a better approach, the specifics of who would be responsible for maintaining native plantings in and around the Village, and whether existing areas of non-native plantings could be “grandfathered” in through an agreement with the State to allow continued non-native plantings in these specific areas.

4. Approval of the 2024 Meeting Schedule

Upon a motion by Councilmember Morgan, seconded by Councilmember Ficklin, Council unanimously approved the 2024 Council Meeting Schedule by a vote of 4-0.

5. Determine the 2024 Partners and Collaborators Assignments

Council and Mr. Sanborn reviewed the 2024 Partners and Collaborators list, and Council unanimously agreed the following assignments would be made with the understanding some adjustments will need to be made once a fifth Councilmember is appointed:

Council Member to Report	Partners & Collaborators
Patrick Pizzella	NCDOT / ** SMPO *
	NC State Government
	Tri-Cities Work Group (SP, Aberdeen, VOP) *
	Moore Co. Economic Development Partnership
	Pinehurst Resort / USGA *
	Moore Co., NC *
	BPAC
Jeff Morgan	Moore Co., NC *
	Moore Co. Schools *
	Central Pines Regional Council **
	FirstHealth
Barb Ficklin	Tri-Cities Work Group (SP, Aberdeen, VOP) *
	Central Pines Regional Council **
	Pinehurst Business Partners *
	Chamber of Commerce
	Beautification Committee
John Taylor	NCDOT / ** SMPO *
	Moore Co. Economic Development Partnership
	Convention and Visitors Bureau

6. Consider Resolution 23-50 Appointing a Voting Member and a Voting Alternate to the Sandhills Metropolitan Planning Organization (SMPO)

Upon a motion by Councilmember Morgan, seconded by Mayor Pro Tem Taylor, Council unanimously approved Resolution 23-50 appointing Mayor Pizzella as a Voting Member and Mayor Pro Tem Taylor as a Voting Alternate to the Sandhills Metropolitan Planning Organization by a vote of 4-0.

7. **Consider Resolution 23-51 Appointing a Delegate and an Alternate Delegate to the Central Pines Regional Council**

Upon a motion by Councilmember Morgan, seconded by Mayor Pro Tem Taylor, Council unanimously approved Resolution 23-51 appointing Councilmember Morgan as a Delegate and Councilmember Ficklin as an Alternate Delegate to the Central Pines Regional Council by a vote of 4-0.

8. **Discussion Regarding Litigation Committee**

Council and Mr. Sanborn discussed the intention behind the formation of the Litigation Committee, possibly dissolving the Litigation Committee and addressing any potential conflicts of interest as future cases arise on a case-by-case basis. Council unanimously agreed to dissolve the Litigation Committee and address any future litigation with Council as a whole.

9. **Other Business**

Council and Mr. Sanborn discussed receiving twelve applications for the Council vacancy and deliberated on the process to follow for reviewing the applications and moving forward with interviews. It was determined to attempt scheduling interviews for January 05th, 08th, or 12th, 2024 and to begin reaching out to all Applicants for their availability. Further discussion was held on the appointment process.

Council and Mr. Sanborn, also, discussed possibly holding a Work Session to analyze the information that will be provided at the upcoming Strategic Planning Retreats.

10. **Adjournment.**

Upon a motion by Councilmember Morgan, seconded by Mayor Pro Tem Taylor, Council unanimously approved to adjourn the Work Session at 06:32 PM, by a vote of 4-0.

Respectfully Submitted,



Shannon Konstantinou
Village Clerk

A videotape of this meeting is located on the Village website: www.vopnc.org

Vision: The Village of Pinehurst is a charming, vibrant community, which reflects our rich history and traditions.

Mission: Promote, enhance, and sustain the quality of life for residents, businesses, and visitors.

Values: Service, Initiative, Teamwork, and Improvement